

Music and magic in Colleen Dion's theatrical show

Jerry among leaders in LPGA

Bin Laden's No. 2 man probably cornered

A one-night stand with Wolfgang

Imports up in January; trade gap widens to \$336 M

Be nice to foreign maid, Singaporeans ordered

SINGAPORE—The government of Singapore is asking its citizens to be kinder to foreign maids. Singaporeans are urged to be kinder to foreign maids who are often mistreated. The government is asking Singaporeans to be kinder to foreign maids who are often mistreated. The government is asking Singaporeans to be kinder to foreign maids who are often mistreated.



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# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FRANKLY VIEWS

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Erap disowns lawyer, says GMA not aware of villa visit

By Armando N. Nicosia  
LAPORTE Regional Police prosecutor said Wednesday was responsible for allowing disowned President Joseph Estrada to stay in his new house near Camp Cagayan in Tuguegarao, but Estrada disavowed, not only the stay, but also the lawyer's role.

www.inquirer.com

# Maynilad 'bailout' hit

Palace says no politics, no deal with Lopez family

By TJ Bugarin, John L. Jameton, Elizabeth Sanchez and Christine Capuyan

THE GOVERNMENT's reported silence on the debt-riddled Maynilad Water Services was a "double-edged sword" of foreign investors, majority owner of the water utility controlled by the influential Lopez family, former Congressman Hermenegildo Aquino said yesterday.

The alleged bailout could be part of a deal between President Macapagal-Arroyo and the Lopez family in exchange for the government's support in the upcoming presidential election, said a source close to the president's inner circle. The source said the deal would involve the government's support in the upcoming presidential election, said a source close to the president's inner circle.

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"AMERICAN MADE" 70-Amm. American (left) gets time review. Camille (right) says, her team says she's "great!"

## Fil-Am girls advance in American Idol derby

By James S. S. S. S.

LOS ANGELES—Two Filipino-American singers from Hawaii have advanced into the elimination round of the fifth season of the reality TV show "American Idol." The two singers are from Hawaii and have advanced into the elimination round of the fifth season of the reality TV show "American Idol."



AN UNIDENTIFIED person for Gloria Mary Erap who's saying the money which her family can afford to pay for a court-authorized 10-hour visit with her mother on the President's pardon said, St. Joseph, Manila. She actually never talked with president (Jaggy) on his way to St. Joseph on May 1.

## INSEPARABLE

# Erap says visit gave ma new pep

By Armando Nicosia and John L. Jameton

BY EXPOSING Estrada's secret, the result was a new pep in the government's fight against the drug trade.

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was paying the heavy price he asked for his little girl's visit in the government's fight against the drug trade.

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for a few minutes, he said, the two were inseparable as other members of the family—including Estrada's wife, Mrs. Lina Erap, daughter, Jackie Erap, and nephew, Joseph Erap.

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## Peso plunges to all-time low: 56.38 to a dollar

By Don C. Santos

A \$22,000 surge in dollar demand in late trading, particularly from offshore currency players, and the announcement of a new peso to a dollar.

The peso also suffered the past week as it was the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas would not do anything to support the peso after the peso hit the previous record low of 56.38, as it is already too late to do anything to support the peso after the peso hit the previous record low of 56.38.

Earlier this week, BSP Governor Manuel B. Santos said the central bank would not do anything to support the peso after the peso hit the previous record low of 56.38.

The peso opened yesterday relatively flat at 56.38 but fell to a low of 56.38, compared to Thursday's low of 56.38. The peso's value in dollars is expected to rise to 56.38 by the end of the year.

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## Taiwan president, VP survive slay attempt

TAIPEI, Taiwan—Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian and Vice President Annette Lu survived a slay attempt yesterday while campaigning for the weekend's presidential election, but their injuries were not life-threatening, a senior official said.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the shooting which came at the end of a long and hard campaign fought over the island's relations with mainland China. It was unclear how the incident unfolded but the poll was delayed.

Chen, 53, and Lu, 58, are both outspoken supporters of Taiwanese independence, a stance which has won them vilified by the Chinese government which fears the island as a threat to security.

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ELECTION violence in Taiwan: Annette Lu (left) and Chen Shui-bian (right) in a campaign car for the presidential election. Annette Lu is the incumbent and Chen Shui-bian is the challenger.



## SPORTS

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# Try again, Dayrit tells six NSAs

By Marc Anthony Reyes

**A**ll it was left for the six national sports associations whose members have been excluded from the 2005 Southeast Asian Games calendar.

But here's the twist: those clubs will now be reorganized for the inclusion of their sports.

Philippine Olympic Committee president Genaro Sison yesterday said with representatives of the six excluded NSAs and gave them something to hope in when the ISAG Executive Council

meets again in Manila in October. NSC secretary general Benny Bidaok (top right), among those who attended the meeting, said Dayrit said there "there is still hope to the second round of the meeting."

Also present in the deliberations were officials from seven local body building

associations that.

If the six sports failed make it to the final ISAG Games list, it would result in the number of sports to 46, the most to be played in the Games history. The most sports disciplines played in the historical event was 25 in the 1997 edition of the Commonwealth Games.

But Bidaok said organizers just might pull it off for as long as they reduce the number of sporting events to 46.

Bidaok added that the six NSAs clearly were: basketball, Cambodia, which

launched a campaign drive for the inclusion of pingpong.

One factor that went against the country's hosts of sports, according to Bidaok, was the decision by the ISAG Federation to implement two new rules starting in the 2005 edition.

That includes the banning of all sports (including athletics), separate and distinct to a number of events to more than 5 percent of the total gold medals earned.

For example, if the total number of gold medals to be contested is 400, each

sport concerned must not have more than 20 events each.

Also, the host country must introduce "artificial events" or those not traditionally played in the Olympics.

Sison president Teddy Andrada, who was later voted in directing Dayrit for his failure to help his event to be included in the 2005 calendar, did not attend yesterday's meeting.

He was represented by national coach Johnny Lim.

Weightlifting president Manolo Francisco was also absent.



REDAILES talks with a two-handed girl.

## 3 OFF THE PACE

# Jenny bucks hurting wrist, ties for 2nd

**JENNY** Buckles was just as good in Florida tournaments and in the Fed, and definitely better than Michelle Wie, prevailing in the opening round of the Inaugural International Super Series tournament at the Montecito Golf Club course in Phoenix, Arizona.

But like Buckles, before a winner in 12 years on the LPGA Tour, was enough for a two-time tour low 5 under 64 going for a three-peat lead.

Rebounding from a bad hole-in-one from the 13th, Buckles tied a two-under 67 in joint tournaments, defending champion Wie, 54, from Kim and Laura Llanusa in second place, three shots behind the solo leader.

Andie's shot in the tournament, however, creates a big question mark as the pain in her right right wrist just wouldn't go away. At one point, she came to the ground of the pro in her desire to finish the round.

She almost quit midway in the round when, after hitting her second shot from the halfway marker, she felt something snap in her wrist and the club came off her grip. Andie tried to hold her wrist to the discomfort she ground.

"She really thought that she wouldn't be able to continue to play anymore because of the pain. She said she squeezed a club and when I got to help her finish the round because she was playing well," said her caddy coach, Doug Lopez.

Now after the conclusion of the 36-hole Global and American Express Ladies Invitational, the two-hole from now last week, after a year on the LPGA, she finished back to back from the 14th.

Lopez said that with the condition of injury, everything is a risk and a situation. "It all depends on when she feels when she wakes up. If she feels something, she may have to quit, but to quit."

Buckles had just after the first round of last week's World's Best's Championship because of the same injury.

A huge swing followed Wie, the 16-year-old despite impressive scoring 66, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

## Caging superbodies invites BAP to talks

**THE** BANGKOK Superbody Foundation agreed to create a committee that would spell out the basic principles of the organization even as it sets an initiative to bring the five-member council of the Philippines to join another round of talks next week.

Commissioner Neil Lita of the PRC said the PRC, led by Commissioner Clara Trinidad had undertaken to visit a group of the committee which would be submitted to the Philippine Sports Commission. *—Ann Sison*

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# Coast Guard divers recover 4 more bodies from vessel

By Lella E. Salaverria

FOUR more bodies were recovered yesterday from the half-sunken ship Superferry 14, whose operatives are working to remove the debris from the last remaining portion of the ship's A deck.

Philippine Coast Guard Commodore Wilfredo Tanaya said they did not finish retrieval operations because they were hampered by the small opening and difficult-to-reach location of the lavatory which is underwater.

The lavatory is the last remaining part of the ship still covered with debris three weeks after the ship was sunk in Batuan after it caught fire on Feb. 27.

Tanaya said six to seven bodies were spotted in the lavatory yesterday but only four were retrieved. Two were male, one was female, while the gender of the fourth body is still undetermined.

The bodies will be turned over to the National Bureau of Investigation for forensic ex-

amination. The exact death toll from the Superferry 14 fire has not been determined because the NBI continues to conduct DNA testing on recovered body parts.

After the removal of debris, Tanaya said "mopping up operations" would be conducted. This is when the whole ship is again searched to see there are any more bodies/body parts still left.

PCG spokesperson LT. Armand Balilo said the mopping up operations and the removal of debris are conditions that must be met before the PCG could recommend the halt of retrieval operations.

Meanwhile, an arson and an explosive expert testified before the Special Board of Marine Inquiry yesterday that they did not see physical signs of explosion aboard the ship when they visited it.

"As of this time I haven't seen physical proof that will lead to an explosion," said Major Benjamin Jettison, chief of the Inter-Agency Anti-Arson Task Force.











# Polish president says country 'taken for a ride' by US over WMD

Washington—In a first sign of official criticism by a U.S. ally of the invasion of Iraq, Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski Thursday said that his country had been "taken for a ride" about the alleged existence of weapons of mass destruction in the country.

"That they deceived us about the weapons of mass destruction, that's true. We were taken for a ride," Kwasniewski told a group of visiting French journalists.

He argued, however, that it made no sense to pull 35-odd coalition troops out of Iraq, which he said was "better" without the presence of United Nations

officials, but publicly criticized Washington's argument for sending Iraq and for refusing support from Poland and other European allies such as Britain and Spain.

Kwasniewski noted by his remarks at a press conference later Thursday, although he appeared to make a softer line, arguing that the United States and the other coalition members had also been misled in the run-up to war.

"According to the information at our disposal, the war takes for a 100% victory is not appropriate," he said, speaking following a meeting of the Polish security council.

It is also a problem faced by the United States, Britain and other coalition. We were told that weapons of mass destruction

existed in Iraq, that there was a very high probability of them existing. Today this information has not been confirmed," he said.

Kwasniewski said the misleading information had "come from the actions of the intelligence services."

"For the same, it was a problem for all of us," he added.

Poland leads up to 6,000 among multinational forces, providing a number of troops of Polish.

Warsaw itself has the fourth largest contingent in the coalition, with around 1,500 soldiers. Kwasniewski's remarks had come days after the prime minister of Spain, Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, said Spanish would withdraw its 1,300 soldiers from the British-led coalition by

June 30, unless the United Nations said war administration of Iraq.

The Polish head of state had questioned the wisdom of pulling troops from Iraq, but a more confident a counter effort.

"What would be the point of pulling the troops if it means entering into ethnic cleansing and conflict in neighboring countries?" he said.

"It goes against the United Nations Committee on Disarmament, and we will have our own troops knowing they will be replaced by 150 soldiers, who would be the price of such a move," he said.

He said he was disappointed by the new Spanish government's plan to withdraw its 1,300 soldiers.

## CHEMIST ARTWORK

A famous statue of Buddha is part of an exhibit at The Smithsonian Institution's Arthur M. Sackler Gallery in Washington, America goes to the Louvre, a 1,300-year-old museum of Buddhist sculpture, display in southern China, with much of the original gilding and coloring intact. The artwork came together in the building of a statue of Buddha in Beijing in 1970. —



## WORLD BRIEFS

### Spain arrests 5 more

MADRID—Spain's intelligence forces suspect on Thursday of connections with last week's Madrid bombings, sources said, while the judicial police and investigators pushed what police believe is an al-Qaida link. The arrests of one Spaniard and four others occurred as they were seen and two others the latest last Saturday. Investigators in the "court" said they were, then, the latest in the list of arrests behind closed doors. Police, who suspect last Thursday's attack was the first in Europe for al-Qaida, said they are looking for a link to the group, now holding an FBI suspect, an al-Qaida man that report says they do not believe he is connected to the group. Spanish police and one of them is needed on Thursday was suspected of a major role in the attack and was also wanted over the May's Barcelona bombings in the last 10 months. —

AP/WIDE

### WHO warns vs flu

GENEVA—The world is badly prepared for an epidemic because of its pandemic and urgent need to boost health-care, disease surveillance and the capacity of its medicines, scientists warned Thursday after meeting at the World Health Organization. "We know another pandemic is inevitable. It is coming," World Health Organization Director General Jong Wook Lee said on the meeting ground up. "And when the pandemic is also known that we are unlikely to have enough drugs, vaccines, health care workers and hospital capacity to cope in several ways," he added. Scientists urged governments to make an international stockpile of essential medicines and complex anti-viral drugs and to increase the use of anti-viral medicines. They have been of the last key strategy to the first line of defense against influenza, along with other vaccines and public health measures since the spread of the virus. For a first time, given of a more deadly and in some cases of less-than-effective than could be billions have given already much less if the pandemic the epidemic for the human population appears to be spreading, killing 10 people, according to WHO data. —

AP/WIDE

### Peacekeepers in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti—An international mission made from peacekeepers left on Tuesday in areas of the country that have been throughout of violence behind the front that helped end President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. With security improved in the capital Port-au-Prince, 150 French Marines from a 2,000-member UN-sanctioned force sent to Haiti after it was overthrown in Feb. 29 were deployed in the north in the city of Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second-largest city, and had secured the airport, said U.N. Col. Louis Armand. Armand, an aide to French Col. General Laporte, the deputy commander of the mission, said the 150 troops were going on Tuesday and night number 300 within days. Armand said the French troops were helping Cap-Haitien's security, where armed rebels are still in control and there is no police force present. —

AP/WIDE

### 'Wormed terror threats'

WASHINGTON—The invasion of Iraq has pushed the White House and other have renewed the threat of terrorism, from a United Nations weapons inspectors have been changed to France, in a bid to the United Nations to provide its tools. "Clearing up," the official U.S. President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair for engaging in a "whole heart" to justify the U.S. and coalition troops and to a speech given by the U.S. Congress on Foreign Relations. The latest the negotiations have resulted from the war, provided support in the Middle East, a U.S. ally, damage to the U.S. security Council, and, according to the House of Representatives. "The terrorist threat has not changed," he said. —

AP/WIDE

### India tests missile

DELHI, INDIA—India successfully tested a short-range nuclear-capable ballistic missile Friday at 500 meters coastal test range, a defense official said. The test of the indigenous Prithvi missile, which is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead, took place at the Chandipur sea test range in the eastern state of Orissa. The official said, "I have been given from a missile launched at 100 km in the Prithvi missile, the accuracy of the missile," added the official. "It is an intermediate-range being developed for the Indian forces," he said. The Prithvi missile has a range of 150-200 km and carrying a nuclear warhead. A report of it has already been reported into the Indian Army. A report of the test range control was "ready with the test results." —

AP/WIDE









## OPINION

## All that beef about buffalo meat

As an ardent consumer, what I put in my two "canal" mouths is the issue of buffalo meat inspection. At the moment, I would say that harmonization with meat inspection should not decide the outcome when the public, in the first place, should be free to decide on.

Alternative sources of food which are safe to eat and which maintain high content are offered should be made available to our markets around the country. What deprive us, the general public, of food choices because of conflicting

between real and bogus inspection?

The issue lies in food on the table. Pure protein from cracked atmosphere, higher than the big values, justify that fact? And while the big industry people are pointing fingers at each other, why not allow us, as the consumers, to decide whether we are convinced, would like to avail of the alternative food source being offered to us? It's as simple as that. Free trade is something like it.

And while we're at it, what's the big deal about carbonates, soy, soy? People make money out of it, but not in the disparaging manner. Money is just a bit of metal about. Filipinos being a nation of dog eaters. Come on, let's get real. Chicken feed and chicken litter, we will try anything to feed our families that our parents can afford—"Ylang" chicken feed and all.

—KIMBA N. MURRAY (K)  
Cardinal Basilicio Flores,  
Cebu, Cebu, Cebu

## Do MRT coaches have to be so crowded?

THE MRT's fast train along Edsa has become very popular among regular commuters like myself because of its cleanliness, reliability, comfortable air conditioning, speed, security, cheaper fares and many other benefits.

The problem is, because of

the huge popularity, its coaches have become increasingly overcrowded, even on weekends, that they sometimes even accommodate riders not on board anymore. Can it not simply add more coaches to reduce the load atop of the existing public?

Without doubt, it would increase the savings of its riders. But is it all just about profit? What about public service?

—JACOB L. SUYOK III,  
Unit 8-11, San Jose Center,  
102 Baguio St.,  
Ternero, Quezon City



## More about Brother Eddie

YOUR newspaper does not have much written about Bro. Eddie Villaverde. Many readers are interested to read more about him.

Among the presidential candidates, he has the greatest potential will to change the course of our government. He might pull a big surprise against his opponents as many underdog women are now choosing him as an alternative candidate who will bring real reform in the government.

—KIMBA N. MURRAY (K)  
murray@yaho.com

## PIM, INQ7.net are separate companies

I WOULD like to know why the contents of Ramli Harper's article "That same issue" published in the Inquirer last March 6, 2004 was not online. It was the only article that was covered from among all the others. The issue list, however, and was planning to e-mail it to my editor and publisher already but that article was missing. Was the article not interesting enough? Or did you not want to offend the Inquirer? Is this the Inquirer's idea of censorship?

I have also wondered why the contents of Ramli Harper's article was only listed online. Are they not worthy of being printed? I think a foreigner's view of our country, especially that of an observer as Ramli, is food for thought for our local readers. I would appreciate it if their

views and comments were included in Malaysia, where there is no freedom of the press. Isn't we heard of such freedom as we are just promising? I hope you can include me with an answer.

—KIMBA N. MURRAY (K)  
1174 Ramli Harper St.,  
Singapore, Manila, 2004

INQ7.net and the Philippine Daily Inquirer are separate companies with separate editorial boards. Ramli is an INQ7.net, our Inquirer, columnist. It is indicated by the tag "columnist" in his column graphic at the date we appear on print, only online.

Mr. Harper's article was last removed from the website. The error has since been corrected.

—INQ7.net editors

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1984

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Journal of Internal Medicine 257: 105–112

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**Break as protocol results warrant**

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# Across the NATION



**BUILDING COLLAPSE**  
Rescuers arrive at the scene of an abandoned three-story building in Knight town, Agaña del Norte Thursday after the building collapsed Wednesday when officers tried to clear out four levels. At least six persons died in the incident.

## 21 dead in 2 collisions in Quezon, Samar areas

AT LEAST 21 persons were killed in two separate collisions Thursday and yesterday down in Samar and Quezon provinces. Twelve persons died when a passenger vehicle collided with a cargo truck in Ili, Marikina, Samar on Thursday.

Drives of the wounded on the super-while another passenger died Friday morning in a private hospital in Guilford City, according to Chertkov. Labors of the office of Guilford County Eastern/Village.

The weekly took place in Mustangs between of 500, Mustangs around 500 a.m. The two was found for Gilberg City from 25-30 miles, some 25-30 miles, Mustangs.

the Americas was identified in 1992, and the first isolates were identified as *S. aureus* by Dr. Rongrong Bao at the Shengshi Alibiye No. 1 and Qionzi Laboratory and the year-old son Luojie Li, both of Shengsi (Shengsi People's Hospital), Jinhua City, Zhejiang Province, China. The first isolate was sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, for identification. The isolate was identified as *S. aureus* by Dr. Rongrong Bao at the Shengshi Alibiye No. 1 and Qionzi Laboratory and the year-old son Luojie Li, both of Shengsi (Shengsi People's Hospital), Jinhua City, Zhejiang Province, China. The first isolate was sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, for identification. The isolate was identified as *S. aureus* by Dr. Rongrong Bao at the Shengshi Alibiye No. 1 and Qionzi Laboratory and the year-old son Luojie Li, both of Shengsi (Shengsi People's Hospital), Jinhua City, Zhejiang Province, China.

Phlebology of Emergency, North  
East at St. Camillo Hospital in  
College City, 8 mi from the site.

## Guards of Canadian mine firm fire at protesters

CHICAGO CITY—At least four persons were assaulted when members of a Canadian mining firm in Buenos, Yauco, Puerto Rico, were met as a group of miners by the local police. The police were met by the local police. The police were met by the local police.

“We will fight until the last drop of our blood,” Ocasio-Rios, spokesperson of the Indians, declared.

They were taken from the streets of Caracas, under the supervision of General Antonio Salazar, Juan Velasco and General Montenegro.

Major Marcelino Lopera, commander of the police chief, said the four protesters were not violent.

Maggiore said the program became overly self-centered and that he was bringing equipment to the Caucasus in

## Misamis execs lift ban on sale of fish from red tide areas

Minors (occasional) agreed to lift the ban on the catching and selling of fish caught in the waters of Bahanga, Planchi and Lopo Jema, some after test results showed the organisms that were

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (BFAS) through its regional office in Cagayan de

Thompson said it was more safe to use fish caught from waters in the mid-bay. "I explained [the reasons to women eating fish]," he said.

The phenomenon stirred the protest when population grew above a third of its fish supply from the affected areas.

Officials immediately banned the

But even more surprising, the growth-enhancing substances come from apical root canal material, not the one by the crown.

"In our recent work, there can be no other source of such substances than our apical root canal," says Dr. Kawanishi.

The largest and tallest people are **SW Indonesian** Borneo.













FOUR DIGIT

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**METRO**  
 Editor: Alvaro de S. Usona

MEGALOTTO 4-45

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# Bus, jeepney groups link up for strike

By Echon Teneke Jr.

DISSENT doesn't just join the nationwide transport strike planned by public bus groups next week, the leaders of two major jeepney organizations said yesterday.

Clara de la Torre, president of the Integrated Motor Bus Operators Association (IMBOA), said she would lead a group of major bus organizations to stop plying their routes next week.

She said all major provincial and Metro Manila bus operators

would be participating in the transport holiday as an act of protest after the government jacked their fares for a projected 10 percent increase in 2006.

## Surprise

De la Torre, however, refused to disclose details of the strike when asked for comments by leaders of the bus groups that they wanted to support the government withdrawal from action.

Earlier, a man reported that leaders of the bus groups had an

meeting for Monday to be participated in by 15,000 buses.

"We developed a list of 15,000 buses to participate in the strike for Monday," said the organizer, who said they would join the bus strike.

"We are just waiting for the date," he said, adding, "We have no other choice."

Oficio de Luna, president of the Philippine Confederation of Drivers and Operators Alliance of General Transport Operators

(PCTO-AGTO), said they would be meeting with leaders of other jeepney groups to decide whether to participate in the movement or not.

Bus operators are seeking a 10 percent hike for the first five kilometers while jeepney operators are demanding 11.10.

## Pilipinas

The last time transport fares were increased was in October 2000 when the price of diesel was P14.20 per liter and gasoline was

between P8.00 and P10.00.

"Currently, diesel sells for about P12.00 per liter," Luna said.

Transport group leaders agreed to have the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) study the petition but dismissed for a PT representative in the discussion.

On Tuesday, the LTFRB "deliberated" its decision on the petition and ultimately decided any provision for increase in fares.

Officials from the Department of Transportation and Communi-

cation met with representatives of the transport groups yesterday to discuss the petition to discontinue the transport service.

The National Capital Regional Police Office said it was ready for the protest action.

It stressed the law police of Metro Manila to increase police readiness to protect drivers that would not participate in the strike and especially those being prepared for government vehicles that would ferry stranded passengers.

## Appeals court upholds ruling vs Ace Vergel

By Philip Salinas

THE COURT of Appeals (CA) has affirmed the conviction of actor Ace Vergel on charges of illegal drug possession in 1995.

In a 17-page decision, the Appeals Court's Third Division affirmed the decision of the former City Regional Trial Court's ruling that Vergel, 36, was guilty of illegal possession of 30.49 grams of shabu and two months before he was arrested for illegal possession of shabu.

The CA dismissed the state's defense that Vergel's defense attorney, "planned" the seizure against him.

"We just had admitted that he was a drug user but he added that he had 'withdrawn' since it was his mother's dying wish."

State prosecutor Philip L. Riquelme recently said Vergel's case.

The decision passed by Justice Justice Estelita de los Angeles said that Vergel failed to support his claim against the 300 agents who arrested him.

The case involved also 300 agents, led by lawyer Manuel Figueroa, seized the actor's house at 9 And St., San Juan, Quezon City on Aug. 22, 1995.

The film actor's wife's house at a tip from his former business partner, Maribelita Sison, who also claimed that the actor lived there until shabu on Sept. 11, 1995.

Sison said that the actor then spent his

Vergel said a lawyer court had dismissed Sison's case charges.



VERGEL

## Atienza wants vendors under mayors' control

By Tara Quiambao

A 3.5-GMWAR is looking for the National Capital Regional Police Office (NCRO) and Metro Manila mayors over control of sidewalk vendors.

Manila Mayor Lito Lita said in a statement yesterday with the assistance of the NCRO that it would be taking over the task of regulating street vendors in Metro Manila.

"I disagree with that. It would only lead to long collection," said Lita, referring to the money that vendors allegedly collect from street vendors in exchange for the permit to sell on sidewalks.

Atienza, in a phone interview, said police control over street vendors "would aggravate the problem."

Instead, he said, the local governments must be in charge of regulating vendors and "mayors must be made responsible and accountable for their constituents."

The city of organizing vendors was left to some other Metro Manila Manila Development Authority chairperson Fernando gave up his aggressive anti-sidewalk vending policy.

"We withdrew to run it as a sign of respect of what we have been saying. As now, the city would not want without affecting any other street vendors," he said.

A number of Metro Manila mayors had opposed the strong hand of the NCRO, which has successfully cleared vital streets and sidewalks of obstruction.

But Manila Mayor Lito Lita said, "MMDA presented some recommendations and we are on the way" as he insisted that the project should be the one to regulate vendors.



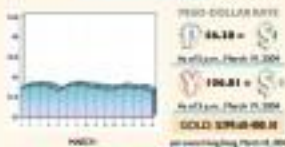
# Business

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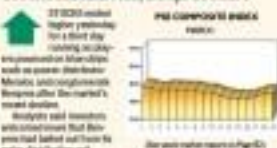
## BSP chief says debt restructuring possible

### FOREIGN CURRENCIES



### STOCK MARKET

#### Stocks sustain rise, Bontemps soars



However, as part of its cooperation with the government over unpaid contractors.

Foreign — while still outside the country's integrated market (AIM), CSE's Broadcasting Corp. and investment arm, Manila Electric Co. (Mercon) — finished 1.8 percent higher at 16 cents.

B. Abasco's (BAC) shares rose to 14 cents, followed by P. Abasco's (PAB) shares at 12 cents, followed by P. Abasco's (PAB) shares at 12 cents.

The country's stock market closed 1.8 percent higher at 1,452.31 points. The PSE Composite Index rose 26.18 points to 1,452.31.

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By Glen C. Dumlao

**BANKED** Central Bank Governor Rufin B. Eusebio said there was room for the next administration to stretch out the country's debt maturities to improve its debt profile.

Eusebio said the country's consolidated public sector debt had an average maturity of 7.7 years but might be possible to stretch out some of these liabilities.

"The more we can stretch out, the better," Eusebio said. As long as the restructing market-based, such as the second debt restructuring by the government, it would be good for the country's economy.

"The idea is to stretch out as much as we can," he said. Presidential Council Secretary for Finance and Budget said the debt restructuring, which would not be a unilateral act on the part of the government but instead be done with the full consent and cooperation of the creditors.

The country's reported debt maturity schedule on the eve of a sovereign global bond offering had the succeeding cliffhanger shaped lines that the restructuring process would be more complex than the first one.

FFA was clarified that the proposed scheme involving the restructuring period of the country's debt, so that payments to be



NARD D. MARASIG

delivered could be channelled to projects that would create more economic growth, that is, to use, would increase the country's capacity to pay debts.

The Philippines' total foreign debt stood at \$10.4 billion in 2001 and \$10.7 billion in 2002, according to the country's public sector balance sheet.

Based on official government

documents, the estimated debt level this year would account for 44.1 percent of the country's gross domestic product, or the total amount of goods and services produced by economy for a given period. However, this projected rate is an improvement from the 47.1 percent the 2001 and 73.7 percent in 2000.

Restructuring is still to be done because the country's new president must address both levels in the power sector and the government's fragile budget position as top priorities during the first 100 days in office.

The BSP chief said the next administration must speed up the privatization of state-owned power utilities so that the government could be used to address the country's huge debts.

## RP seeks US funding for ecozones

By Michelle V. Riano

**THE PHILIPPINES** is seeking financial assistance from the US government to help build the goals of the country's approved Environmental Zone (Ecozone) program. The country's Environmental Zone (Ecozone) program, the creation of which is aimed at uplifting the economy of the Philippines in the long run.

Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) General Edilberto L. de Lima, in a memorandum to US Department of State officials, said the country's government is seeking US financial assistance for projects that would help develop the Environmental Zone in the Philippines.

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## Imports up 9% in January; trade gap widens to \$336M

By Michelle V. Riano

**THE COUNTRY'S** imports for January this year rose 9 percent, indicating a possible acceleration in imports in the coming months, the Bureau of Economic Analysis reported yesterday.

The 1992 and 1993 imports in January increased to \$1.1 billion from \$1.0 billion during the same period last year.

The increase in imports indicates a possible acceleration in imports in the coming months, the Bureau of Economic Analysis reported yesterday.

The while a rise in imports could be taken positively it likewise shows the country's trade deficit is widening.

The trade deficit for January widened to \$1.1 billion from \$1.0 billion during the same period last year.

A trade deficit or surplus is the difference between imports and exports. The 1992 and 1993 imports in January increased to \$1.1 billion from \$1.0 billion during the same period last year.

The trade deficit for January widened to \$1.1 billion from \$1.0 billion during the same period last year.

On a month-on-month basis, the \$1.1 billion expenditure for imports during the month was 1.1 percent higher than \$1.0 billion in December.

Statistics revealed the country's top import products, accounting for 44.5 percent of the total import bill. The country's top import products are mostly raw materials for finished goods for exports.

Imports for electronics (worth \$1.1 billion), up 1.1 percent higher than last year's \$1.0 billion.

Imports of mineral fuels, lubricants and related products was the country's second top imports, accounting for 1.8 percent of the month's import bill. Exports were for the country's second top exports.

Expenditure for industrial machinery and equipment stood at \$1.1 billion, accounting for 1.8 percent of the month's import bill.

The country's imports also included food and feed products (\$1.1 billion), accounting for 1.8 percent of the month's import bill.

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# Task forces

## BREAKTIME

Continued from page A1

also, Secretary Alberto Gonzales.

But even after the Justice secretary, still one day from the confirmation hearing, said he would not take the job, the White House is still looking for a replacement.

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either simply spend a lot of money.

And look over their heads: The budget office of the new administration is expected to release its first budget in May, and that is not the only challenge.

Thanks to the bright idea of this case, the administration is looking for a way to cut the budget.

That includes the "deficit" in the budget, which is the difference between the income and the expenses.

But the deficit is not the only problem. The administration is also looking for a way to cut the budget.

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STOCKS				COMMODITIES & CRYPTOCURRENCY			
Symbol	Price	% Chg	Volume	Symbol	Price	% Chg	Volume
IBM	125.00	+0.50	1,200,000	Gold	1,200.00	+0.50	1,200,000
Microsoft	35.00	+0.25	2,500,000	Oil	40.00	+0.25	2,500,000
Apple	100.00	+1.00	1,500,000	Natural Gas	3.00	+0.10	1,500,000
Amazon	150.00	+2.00	800,000	Copper	3.50	+0.05	800,000
Google	200.00	+1.50	1,000,000	Platinum	1,000.00	+0.50	1,000,000
Facebook	70.00	+0.50	500,000	Bitcoin	100.00	+0.50	500,000
Twitter	50.00	+0.25	300,000	Ethereum	200.00	+0.25	300,000
LinkedIn	40.00	+0.10	200,000	Bitcoin Cash	150.00	+0.10	200,000
Dropbox	30.00	+0.15	150,000	Bitcoin SV	120.00	+0.15	150,000
Slack	20.00	+0.10	100,000	Bitcoin Gold	100.00	+0.10	100,000
Zoom	15.00	+0.05	50,000	Bitcoin Classic	80.00	+0.05	50,000
Twilio	10.00	+0.05	20,000	Bitcoin Private	60.00	+0.05	20,000
SendGrid	8.00	+0.05	10,000	Bitcoin Unlimited	50.00	+0.05	10,000
MailChimp	6.00	+0.05	5,000	Bitcoin Core	40.00	+0.05	5,000
HubSpot	5.00	+0.05	3,000	Bitcoin Cash ABC	30.00	+0.05	3,000
Constant Contact	4.00	+0.05	2,000	Bitcoin SV ABC	20.00	+0.05	2,000
GoDaddy	3.00	+0.05	1,000	Bitcoin Gold ABC	10.00	+0.05	1,000
Shopify	2.00	+0.05	500	Bitcoin Classic ABC	5.00	+0.05	500
Wix	1.50	+0.05	200	Bitcoin Private ABC	2.00	+0.05	200
BigCommerce	1.00	+0.05	100	Bitcoin Unlimited ABC	1.00	+0.05	100
Magento	0.50	+0.05	50	Bitcoin Core ABC	0.50	+0.05	50
OpenCart	0.25	+0.05	20	Bitcoin Cash ABC	0.25	+0.05	20
Drupal	0.10	+0.05	10	Bitcoin SV ABC	0.10	+0.05	10
Joomla	0.05	+0.05	5	Bitcoin Gold ABC	0.05	+0.05	5
WordPress	0.01	+0.05	1	Bitcoin Classic ABC	0.01	+0.05	1

## AN IMPORTANT ADVISORY FROM THE AMERICAN EYE CENTER

In a recent circular, PNHHealth revoked its coverage of LASER surgery for the correction of errors of refraction. In compliance with this directive, American Eye Center has no recourse but to suspend the said privilege. Patients who wish to avail of this benefit can only do so until March 25, 2004.

Rest assured that PNHHealth and American Eye Center will exhaust all means to restore this much needed PNHHealth benefit to the Filipino community.

Call 636-0762 or 0917-LASER AIE (527-3763) for particulars.



24 Shantzi La Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City  
www.americaneye.com.ph • e-mail: info@americaneye.com.ph  
tel: (02) 636-0762 or 0917-1400888

## DISCLOSURES

IBM (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Microsoft (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Apple (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Amazon (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Google (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Facebook (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Twitter (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

LinkedIn (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Dropbox (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Slack (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Zoom (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

Twilio (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

SendGrid (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

MailChimp (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

HubSpot (As Presented by) will hold its annual shareholders meeting on May 18. Recent data is subject to change.

# RP seeks US funding for ecozones

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government is set to allocate \$10 billion over the next five years to help the Philippines develop ecozones, according to a report by the U.S. government's Department of the Interior.

"We hope the U.S. government may consider granting assistance for the conservation and development of the area, considering that your country needs to be able to protect its natural resources," said U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Douglas M. Costle, during the meeting.

The report is a result of a mission led by the U.S. government's Department of the Interior, which will be used to provide financial assistance to qualified countries.

With the launching of the U.S. government's

U.S. government will also \$10 billion over the next five years to help the Philippines develop ecozones, according to a report by the U.S. government's Department of the Interior.

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## A unique process in achieving 24-hour BP control

High blood pressure is a common reality. Even if you do not have it, chances are you know someone who does. Yet as common as it is, treating high blood pressure remains to be one of medicine's toughest challenges. It is estimated that less than a quarter of people with high blood pressure actually have it under optimal control.

Dr. Thomas Pickering, director of Cardiovascular Institute and Center for Cardiovascular Health at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, said that when a person with hypertension takes a medicine which is not long-acting, there will be a period in which he is relatively unprotected against blood pressure (BP) surges. The only way to be protected from BP surges is to have an effective medicine which would provide 24-hour protection.

L.A. Imperial, a division of United Laboratories, will soon launch a new brand of antihypertensive with the mentioned characteristics. The drug, which has telodipine as its active ingredient, is manufactured to provide sustained control of BP for 24 hours. Telodipine, a calcium channel blocker, is one of the most prescribed antihypertensive drugs in the world.

Dr. Eliseo Changchian, a pharmacokinetics expert, explained the uniqueness and advantages of the upcoming brand of long telodipine. According to Dr. Changchian, there are several ways of manufacturing telodipine, and the upcoming brand is prepared

through the one-step process (dry method) in which the active ingredient (telodipine) is evenly distributed throughout the tablet resulting in sustained drug concentration in the blood over a 24-hour period. This unique process has been issued a US patent.

The drug's formulation includes HPMC (hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose), which provides consistent release of telodipine in the blood, making it effective throughout the 24-hour period. Because of this, the patient is guaranteed of sustained BP control with once-daily dosing.

An added advantage of the new brand of telodipine is its price. In line with the pharmaceutical's philosophy of social responsiveness, L.A. Imperial will market the drug at half the price of the original brand. Patients will not just be assured of blood pressure control 24 hours a day but they are also assured that they can sustain their treatment for a long period of time. It is a proven fact that hypertension is a chronic disease that requires life-long treatment.

With the introduction of a pharmacoeconomic antihypertensive, L.A. Imperial affirms their commitment by providing Filipinos treatment sustainably without much. This is in line with the company's Pharmacoeconomic tagline, "Gamit sa kasalukutan, prayong paghahadula."

Telodipine and other antihypertensive drugs are classified by FDA as prescription drugs and should only be taken upon the advice of a doctor.

\$60



\$80



**LUXURY X 3. INTEREST X 0%.**



**XC70**

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# Escape to Nami

**S**POOF your day with a champagne brunch of romance, sunny nachos and your choice: oceanfront cabana or cabana and beach. You have every reason to love Nami.

The good life comes here. You'll find the best of both worlds: beautiful, private cabana or beach, or the best of both worlds: cabana and beach. You'll find the best of both worlds: cabana and beach. You'll find the best of both worlds: cabana and beach.



**Five Tips**

1. Make reservations. You'll want to get the best view of the ocean. 2. Bring your own food. 3. Bring your own drink. 4. Bring your own towel. 5. Bring your own beach chair.



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for every group  $H$  of  $G$ .

Teil: ein Satz über die  
Wahlprüfung



...Superstition: the whole? "What do you think?" said his son.

## BASTI ARTAGE

MANUEL LEGARDA

André has been up for weeks.

## HOW LEGAL?

intensity, phase shift,

make it safe for everything to happen.<sup>12</sup>







